

Florida Parishes Human Services Authority

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November 20, 2015

Louisiana Ethics Administration Program P.O. Box 4368 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Re: Celeste Falconer & FPHSA Board Appointment

Dear Board of Ethics:

Please be advised that we are requesting an opinion from the Ethics Board on behalf of Ms. Celeste Falconer regarding her continued service as an FPHSA Governing Board member.

Florida Parishes Human Services Authority (FPHSA) was created through legislation in 2003 and became operational effective July 1, 2004, as a local governance entity. FPHSA has the responsibility to manage the delivery of services for addictive disorders services, developmental disabilities services, and mental health services for the following five parishes: Livingston, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington, and St. Tammany. FPHSA receives funding through the Louisiana State Legislature, and this includes State General Funds, as well as Federal Block Grant Funds. The FPHSA Governing Board consists of nine board members, who are appointed by the appointing authority of their respective parishes, which is usually the local parish president.

Ms. Celeste Falconer currently serves and represents St. Tammany Parish on the FPHSA Governing Board. Ms. Falconer is the spouse to Ramsey Reid Falconer, known as Reid Falconer, who was recently elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives, District 89 in St. Tammany Parish. In January 2016, Mr. Falconer will succeed the term-limited current Representative, Timothy Burns. Ms. Falconer has requested that we contact the Ethics Board to determine if this relationship is a conflict of interest for her to continue to serve on our governing board.

Please let us know if any further information is needed or if we can be of any assistance in this regard.

Please be assured that your attention in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully, Melanie Walki

Melanie Watkins Executive Director

> FLORIDA PARISHES HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY- ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES 835 PRIDE DRIVE • SUITE B • HAMMOND, LOUISIANA 70401 PHONE (985) 543-4333 • FAX (985) 543-4817

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